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January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

We would like to use this opportunity of public comment to give our support for the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. The settlement is good for our country and gives each side the chance to move forward.

The terms of the settlement are comprehensive and mandate many changes in Microsoft's past business practices. For example, Microsoft has agreed to grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software programs that compete with programs included within Windows. This gives computer makers the ability to replace access to features of Windows with access to non-Microsoft software such as programs from AOL Time Warner. Finally, the agreement calls for the creation of a Technical Committee to supervise Microsoft's compliance with their responsibilities.

This case has gone on for too long and neither side wins with continued litigation. The settlement gives Microsoft the opportunity to focus on innovation while the federal government can focus dwindling resources on stimulating the economy.

Peter & Niobe Schabert